



IFW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q95540

Kazunori OZAWA

Appln. No.: 10/583,080

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 15, 2006

For: METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM FOR REPRODUCING A MOVING
PICTURE

SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience, enclosed herewith is a copy of the English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP). It is assumed that copies of the cited references as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 26, 2006

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

KATO, Asamichi
c/o A. Kato & Associates, Bohsei Bldg. 7th Floor, 20-12,
Shin-Yokohama 3-chome, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa
2220033
JAPON

Date of mailing (<i>day/month/year</i>) 03 August 2006 (03.08.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference NEG-401PCT	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015917	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27 October 2004 (27.10.2004)
Applicant NEC CORPORATION et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Yoshiko Kuwahara
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference NEG-401PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015917	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27 October 2004 (27.10.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 18 December 2003 (18.12.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant NEC CORPORATION			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

	Date of issuance of this report 24 July 2006 (24.07.2006)
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The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer Yoshiko Kuwahara e-mail: pt07@wipo.int
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

TRANSLATION
PCT

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)
Applicant's or agent's file reference NEG-401PCT		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015917	International filing date (day/month/year) 27.10.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 18.12.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant NEC CORPORATION		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/015917

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.	PCT/JP2004/015917
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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																			
<p>1. Statement</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Novelty (N)</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Claims <u>3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33</u></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-36</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inventive step (IS)</td> <td>Claims _____</td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>1-36</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial applicability (IA)</td> <td>Claims <u>1-36</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims _____</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NO</td> </tr> </table>			Novelty (N)	Claims <u>3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33</u>	YES		Claims <u>1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-36</u>	NO	Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES		Claims <u>1-36</u>	NO	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-36</u>	YES		Claims _____	NO
Novelty (N)	Claims <u>3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33</u>	YES																		
	Claims <u>1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34-36</u>	NO																		
Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES																		
	Claims <u>1-36</u>	NO																		
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-36</u>	YES																		
	Claims _____	NO																		
<p>2. Citations and explanations:</p> <p>Document 1: JP 02-298184 A (NEC Corporation), 10 December 1990 Document 2: JP 06-197331 A (NEC Corporation), 15 July 1994 Document 3: JP 07-107465 A (Toshiba Corporation), 21 April 1995 Document 4: JP 07-177514 A (Casio Computer Co., Ltd.), 14 July 1995</p>																				
<p>The inventions relating to claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31 and 34-36 are described in document 1 cited in the ISR (page 2, upper left column, line 17 to page 2, upper right column, line 8; page 2, lower right column, line 12 to page 3, upper right column, line 5); therefore, they do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step.</p> <p>The inventions relating to claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32 and 33 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and any one of documents 2-4 cited in the ISR. Existence of a motion vector in every block is a common matter as described in document 2 (paragraphs 0003 and 0022-0024), document 3 (paragraphs 0003-0011) and document 4; therefore, performing evaluation of a motion vector for each small interval such as a block or the like in document 1 would be easy for a party skilled in the art.</p>																				

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/015917

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

The “predetermined processing” of claims 1-4, 18-21 and 26-29 is not clear in what kind of process it is.

The eighth embodiment is unclear. In paragraph 0089, there is a description such that the small interval divider/determinator 225 (omitted) determines whether the processing is performed by a moving image decoder 231. However, in paragraph 0093, it is described such that the small interval divider/determinator 225 (omitted) determines whether to perform interpolation in a time direction. Therefore, the processing to handle the determined result is different from each other.